

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-20 have been examined. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13. The Examiner has indicated that claims 15-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.¹ Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 15, and added new claim 21 which corresponds to the combination of claim 1 and 18. New claims 22-33 correspond to previously pending dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 11, 4, 6, 9, 12, 7, 10 and 13, respectively. Claim 17 has been amended to depend from new claim 23. Claims 15-16 are cancelled. As the Examiner has previously indicated that the subject matter of each of independent claims 1 and 21 contain allowable subject matter, Applicant submits that each pending claim is now in a condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

¹ Applicant notes that claims 15, 16, 17 are similar in scope but for their respective dependencies. Similarly, claims 18, 19, 20 are similar in scope but for their respective dependencies.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
U.S. Appl'n No. 10/712,065

Docket No. Q78444

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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